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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/692,525

10/24/2003

Paul Tangen

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07/21/2006

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EXAMINER

SAIN, GAUTAM

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 07/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/692,525	Applicant(s) TANGEN ET AL.	
	Examiner Gautam Sain	Art Unit 2176	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

- 1) This is a Non Final rejection in response to remarks filed on 5/2/2006.
- 2) Effective filing date 10/24/2003.
- 3) Claims 1-39 are pending.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

- 4) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**4-1) Claims 1-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Block et al (US 2003/0037038, filed March 4, 2002), in view of Malloy et al (US 2004/0122844, filed Dec 2002).**

**Regarding Claims 1, 18 and 23,** Block teaches *receiving from a user a selection of a portion of said grid, said selection indicating internal metadata to be mapped*. For example, Block discloses a method for adding metadata to data, where labels are selected that correspond to metadata such as text strings in the identified data, based on a list that associates labels with text strings where metadata can be substituted for each occurrence of text string (para 38). The examiner interprets selection of labels as equivalent to the claimed user selection of a portion of grid because those labels are identified by the user.

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Block teaches *creating a mapping between said selected internal metadata and said defined external metadata*. For example, Block discloses identified data are mapped to a file structure, the identified data are mapped to an XBRL database or a file (para 14).

Block does not teach, but Malloy suggests *receiving from said user a definition of external metadata describing all data points within said selection*. For example, Malloy discloses in a method for adding metadata to data, where metadata objects are grouped together by their relationships to each other into a metadata object called a cube model, and the cube model represents a particular grouping of relational tables in order to allow users to generate complex queries (para 65) where the user creates or modifies metadata objects by submitting commands via the user interface (para 59). The examiner interprets the identified data as equivalent to the claimed internal metadata. Block discloses identified data are mapped to an XBRL database, a spreadsheet, or a file (para 14). The examiner interprets the database, spreadsheet or a file as equivalent to the claimed external metadata (as consistent with the specification).

Block does not teach, but Malloy suggests *organizing internal metadata in a grid having rows and columns, wherein dimensional metadata from said internal metadata is places in the grid as row headings and/or column headings*. Malloy discloses in a method for adding metadata to data, where metadata objects are grouped together by their relationships to each other into a metadata object called a cube model, and the cube model represents a particular grouping of relational tables in order to allow users to generate complex queries (para 65) using a database to manage multidimensional

metadata objects (para 58). The cube metadata object references a cube model metadata object (para 147; see Table 16).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a cube metadata object that references a cube model metadata object that shows the relationships amongst metadata objects as taught by Malloy, providing the benefit of an improved relational OLAP system (Malloy, para 20) with multidimensional reports for metadata associated with other metadata stored (Malloy, pages 17, 21).

**Regarding claims 2 and 24**, Block teaches retrieving from a database. For example, mapped to a database (col 2, lines 1-3).

**Regarding claims 3 and 25**, Block suggests determining if the external metadata describing all data points within said selection is predefined; and wherein if the external metadata describing all data points within said selection is predefined, said receiving from said user a definition of external metadata comprises: presenting said user a list from which they may select an item of predefined metadata; and receiving from said user a selection of an item of predefined metadata from said list. For example, Block discloses in the method for adding metadata to data, a data element can be imported directly to a specific location within the database, using an independent software application, based on a label associated with both the location and the elements (para 18).

**Regarding claim 4 and 26**, Block does not expressly teach, but Malloy suggests tree control. For example, reference tree (para 159).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a reference tree as taught by Malloy, providing the benefit of an improved relational OLAP system (Malloy, para 20).

**Regarding claim 5 and 27**, Block suggests determining if the external metadata describing all data points within said selection is predefined; and wherein if the external metadata describing all data points within said selection is not predefined, but syntax of the external metadata describing all data points within said selection is predefined, said receiving from said user a definition of external metadata comprises: presenting said user with one or more dialog boxes in which they can specify external metadata to be created; and receiving from said user a specification of external metadata to be created. For example, Block discloses in the method for adding metadata to data, a data element can be imported directly to a specific location within the database, using an independent software application, based on a label associated with both the location and the elements (para 18).

**Regarding claim 6 and 28**, Block does not expressly teach a dialog box, but does suggest it since Block does teach a Windows Graphic Interface Device (para 63; Fig 7, item 704).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a Graphic Interface Device in a Windows environment as taught by Block, providing the benefit of automating entry of XML and XBRL compliant data into non-XML or non-XBRL compliant programs or applications (Block, para 12).

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**Regarding claim 7 and 29**, Block does not expressly teach a dialog box, but does suggest it since Block does teach a Windows Graphic Interface Device (para 63; Fig 7, item 704).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a Graphic Interface Device in a Windows environment as taught by Block, providing the benefit of automating entry of XML and XBRL compliant data into non-XML or non-XBRL compliant programs or applications (Block, para 12).

**Regarding claim 8 and 30**, Block does not expressly teach a dialog box, but does suggest it since Block does teach a Windows Graphic Interface Device (para 63; Fig 7, item 704).

Block does not expressly teach time, but Malloy does teach time period. For example, time as a data attribute of the data values of the system (para 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a Graphic Interface Device in a Windows environment as taught by Block, providing the benefit of automating entry of XML and XBRL compliant data into non-XML or non-XBRL compliant programs or applications (Block, para 12) and further to include time period as taught by Malloy, providing the benefit of an improved relational OLAP system (Malloy, para 20).

**Regarding claim 9 and 31**, Block does not expressly teach a dialog box, but does suggest it since Block does teach a Windows Graphic Interface Device (para 63; Fig 7, item 704).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a Graphic Interface Device in a Windows environment as taught by Block, providing the benefit of automating entry of XML and XBRL compliant data into non-XML or non-XBRL compliant programs or applications (Block, para 12).

**Regarding claim 10 and 32**, Block does not expressly teach a dialog box, but does suggest it since Block does teach a Windows Graphic Interface Device (para 63; Fig 7, item 704).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a Graphic Interface Device in a Windows environment as taught by Block, providing the benefit of automating entry of XML and XBRL compliant data into non-XML or non-XBRL compliant programs or applications (Block, para 12).

**Regarding claim 11 and 33**, Block teaches selecting. For example, selecting labels (para 15). Block does not expressly teach rows, but Malloy does teach rows. For example, selecting a subset of possible elements with rows of data (para 140, para 180).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include rows as taught by Malloy, providing the benefit of an improved relational OLAP system (Malloy, para 20).

**Regarding claim 12 and 34**, Block teaches selecting. For example, selecting labels (para 15). Block does not expressly teach columns, but Malloy does teach columns. For example, selecting a subset of possible elements with rows of data (para 140, para 180).



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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include rows as taught by Malloy, providing the benefit of an improved relational OLAP system (Malloy, para 20).

**Regarding claim 13 and 35**, Block teaches selecting individual cells in said grid. For example, in a spreadsheet, selecting labels (para 14, 15).

**Regarding claim 14 and 36**, Block suggests preexisting mappings ... individual cells. For example, in a spreadsheet program, any data can be overwritten in individual cells (para 14, 15).

**Regarding claim 15 and 37**, Block teaches receiving ... grid; creating ... grid; entering ... column; and wherein cell. For example, identified data are mapped to a spreadsheet and based on a broad reasonable interpretation of the claims, the limitations are implementable on any spreadsheet program (para 14).

**Regarding claim 16 and 38**, Block teaches XBRL metadata (para 14).

**Regarding claim 17 and 39**, Block teaches schema manager. For example, identified data are mapped to a schema (para 14).

**Regarding Claim 19**, Block suggests an internal metadata database retriever coupled to said internal metadata grid organizer. For example, Block discloses mapping to a spreadsheet (para 14).

**Regarding Claim 20**, Block suggest a predefined external metadata selection determiner coupled to said external metadata user definition receiver; and wherein said external metadata user definition receiver includes: a predefine metadata list presenter; and a predefined metadata list item receiver coupled to said predefined metadata list

presenter. For example, Block discloses on a spreadsheet and/or database, adding labels to data including identifying data in the file, selecting labels based on list associating labels with text strings (para 14, 15).

**Regarding Claim 21**, Block suggests a predefined external metadata syntax determiner coupled to said external metadata user definition receiver; and wherein said metadata dialog box presenter; and an external metadata specification receiver coupled to said external metadata dialog box presenter. For example, on a spreadsheet and/or database, adding labels to data including identifying data in the file, selecting labels based on list associating labels with text strings (para 14, 15).

Block does not expressly teach a dialog box, but does suggest it since Block does teach a Windows Graphic Interface Device (para 63; Fig 7, item 704).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Block to include a Graphic Interface Device in a Windows environment as taught by Block, providing the benefit of automating entry of XML and XBRL compliant data into non-XML or non-XBRL compliant programs or applications (Block, para 12).

**Regarding Claim 22**, Block suggests a user formula receiver. For example, a spreadsheet receives formulas (para 14). Block suggests a new row or column creator coupled to said user formula receiver and to said internal metadata grid organizer. For example, a spreadsheet creates new rows/columns in association with formulas (para 14, 15). Block suggests a new row or column user formula placer coupled to said new

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row or column creator and to said user formula receiver. For example, a spreadsheet allows for placement of formulas to integrate with cells (para 14, 15).

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 5/21/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 1-17 and 23-39, applicant argues that Block and Malloy do not teach creating a mapping between said selected internal metadata and said defined external metadata (see Remarks, page 12). The Examiner disagrees. Block discloses identified data are mapped to a file structure, the identified data are mapped to an XBRL database, a spreadsheet, or a file (para 14). The examiner interprets the database, spreadsheet or a file as equivalent to the claimed external metadata (as consistent with the specification), which are mapped to the identified data.

Applicant argues that Block does not teach receiving from said user a definition of external metadata describing all data points within said selection (see Remarks, page 12). The examiner asserts that Malloy discloses in a method for adding metadata to data, where metadata objects are grouped together by their relationships to each other into a metadata object called a cube model, and the cube model represents a particular grouping of relational tables in order to allow users to generate complex queries (para 65) where the user creates or modifies metadata objects by submitting commands via the user interface (para 59), where the associates are made by the user (see Fig 2, item 206).

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Regarding claims 18-22, applicant requests for a reference citation to support a showing of internal and external metadata (see Remarks, page 13, bottom – page 14, top).

Block discloses identified data that are mapped to a file structure or schema (para 14).

The examiner interprets the identified data as equivalent to the claimed internal metadata. Block discloses identified data are mapped to an XBRL database, a spreadsheet, or a file (para 14). The examiner interprets the database, spreadsheet or a file as equivalent to the claimed external metadata (as consistent with the specification).

Applicant argues that Block fails to teach an external metadata user definition receiver (see Remarks section, page 14). The examiner introduces a new line of rejection under Malloy, which discloses in a method for adding metadata to data, where metadata objects are grouped together by their relationships to each other into a metadata object called a cube model, and the cube model represents a particular grouping of relational tables in order to allow users to generate complex queries (para 65) where the user creates or modifies metadata objects by submitting commands via the user interface (para 59).

Applicant argues that Block fails to teach an internal metadata-to-defined external metadata mapping creator. The examiner disagrees. Block discloses identified data are mapped to a file structure the identified data are mapped to an XBRL database or a file (para 14).

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**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gautam Sain whose telephone number is 571-272-4096. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GS 7/18/06  
GS

  
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